

REMARKS

In reply to the non-final office action of December 17, 2004, applicant asks that all claims be allowed in view of the amendment to the claims and following remarks. Claims 1-11, 13-16 and 18-48 are now pending, of which claims 1, 13, 14, 20, 21 and 44 are independent. Claims 1, 13, 14, 20, 36-39 and 44 are amended, and claims 49-54 are added by this amendment. No new matter is believed to be added by this amendment.

Rejection of Claims 1, 3, 8-12, 14, 16-20, 28-39 and 44-48 under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 3, 8-12, 14, 16-20, 28-39 and 44-48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bertram (U.S. Patent No. 5,818,446) in view of Hoyle (U.S. Patent No. 6,141,010), "Alexa Internet and Netscape Team To Provide Related Sites To Support Smart Browsing" (hereinafter "Alexa"), and Shafron (U.S. Patent No. 2004/0165007). See Office action of December 17, 2004 at page 4. Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection because Bertram, Hoyle, Alexa, Shafron, or any combination of the references does not describe or suggest the subject matter of the independent claims 1, 14, 20 and 44.

As an administrative matter, applicant notes that claims 12 and 17 were cancelled in the response to the Office action of December 18, 2003 and was acknowledged as such by the Examiner's disposition of the claims and on page 2 of the Office action of August 18, 2004. Applicant notes that the Office action summary disposition of the claims of the pending Office action of December 17, 2004 correctly identified the pending claims – namely, that claims 1-11, 13-16 and 18-48 were pending and that claims 12 and 17 were not pending.

a. Claims 1, 3, 8-11, 16 and 28-31

Independent claim 1 is directed to a web browser that, inter alia, adds a new control element to the chrome being displayed while maintaining at least one element of the chrome that was displayed prior to the addition of the new control element. The new control element is (1) configured in response to the current web site being rendered (2) to invoke functionality related to functionality offered by the current web site being rendered (emphasis added).

Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claim 1 because neither Bertram, Hoyle, Alexa, Shafron, nor any combination of the references describes or suggests a web browser program configured to supplement chrome in response to a current web

site being rendered with a control element that is configured to invoke functionality related to functionality offered by the current web site being rendered while maintaining at least one element of the chrome that was displayed prior to the addition of the new element.

The Office action appears to rely on the newly cited Shafron reference for discussing invocation of such a web-site specific control element. See Office action of December 17, 2004 at page 8, lines 4-6. For this reason, we begin by addressing Shafron.

Shafron discloses techniques for dynamically customizing a browser interface to control information and/or functionality of a user's browser and browser interface. See Shafron at Abstract and page 3, paragraph [0027]. More particularly, Shafron describes an interface object that is added to the browser interface and is displayed "for as long as the user continues to surf the web, i.e., as long as the browser 72 is activated." See Shafron at page 5, paragraph [0037]. See also Shafron at FIG. 5. The interface object enables customizations to be made by the user to the browser "so that each time the user accesses the Internet using a browser, user-defined information and/or functionality ... will be displayed within the browser interface." See Shafron at page 2, paragraph [0011]. As noted in the plain text of Shafron, "the information and/or functionality for customizing the browser interface ... remain active even as the user moves from Internet site to Internet site." See Shafron at page 2, paragraph [0015] (emphasis added). See also Shafron at page 4, paragraph [0032] (stating the "present invention ensures that the library file 74 (and shell) does not close when the Internet user moves from Internet site 130 to Internet site 230. Thus, the information provided via the [program in the library file] is not lost when the Internet user disconnects from the Internet site that loaded the [program in the library file] and connects to another Internet site.").

Thus, the techniques described by Shafron require its browser customizations to persist as a user navigates to different web sites, regardless of the functionality offered by those web sites. See FIG. 5 (noting that the "interface object is displayed with internet browser as the internet user surfs the web) and FIGS. 6, 7, and 8 (which include checking to see whether the interface object is present in the browser interface after a user accesses another web site or opens a new browser window and redrawing the interface object as necessary). For example, Shafron states with respect to Figure 6:

The functionality of the interface object 40 ... remains with the Internet browser interface 20 as the Internet user traverses the Internet 90, regardless of the number or type of Internet sites the user visits, as long as the browser 72 remains operational, i.e., as long as

the Internet user is accessing the Internet 90 using the browser software program 72. When the Internet user moves from one Internet site to another, as indicated at step 652. If the interface object 40 is not displayed in the browser interface 20 (i.e., it has been removed from the browser interface 20 or otherwise terminated), the interface object 40 is redrawn, as indicated in step 660...As the Internet user moves between and among Internet sites, the present invention monitors the status of the interface object 40 and ensures that it is displayed by the browser 72 with the browser interface 20 as long as the user is traversing the Internet.

Shafron at page 5, paragraph [0039]. Similar descriptions appear for Figure 5 on pages 4-5, paragraph [0037] and Figure 7 on page 7 paragraph [0051].

As such, Shafron does not describe or suggest a web browser program configured to supplement chrome with a control element that is configured to invoke functionality related to functionality offered by the current web site being rendered, as required by the subject claims.

Moreover, it is clear that the Shafron browser modifications occur immediately upon loading of the browser, and that they remain unchanged during the duration of the browser instance. As such, Shafron clearly fails to contemplate a web browser program configured to supplement chrome in response to a current web site being rendered, as also required by the subject claims.

The Office action asserts that Shafron, in Figure 4 and in paragraph 12, teaches a new control element is configured in response to the current web site being rendered to invoke functionality related to functionality offered by the current web site being rendered. See Office action of December 17, 2004 at page 8, lines 4-6. The Office action also asserts that Sharon disclosed "the account information is not displayed with the browser interface once the user leaves the Internet site." See Office action of December 17, 2004 at page 8, lines 11-12. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Specifically, in Figure 4, Shafron merely depicts a customized browser interface. As noted in Shafron's brief description of drawings, "FIG. 4 depicts a view of an Internet browser interface having an interface toolbar including a plurality of interface objects in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention." See Shafron at page 3, paragraph [0024]. And while Shafron's detailed description of Figure 4 describes that aspects of the interface may be customized, it is replete with uncontroverted disclosure of such customization being performed without any relationship to browser navigation to a web site or functionality offered by a destination web site. See Shafron at page 4, paragraph [0035-0036]. As such, Shafron's Figure

4 does not disclose how a new control element is configured, much less that a new control is configured in response to a current web site being rendered to invoke functionality related to functionality offered by the current web site being rendered, as recited in claim 1.

And, in paragraph 12, Shafron discloses the use of customization techniques to enable a user that has an account of a particular content provider to display information about the user's specific account in the browser interface, while the user navigates from web site to web site. In fact, Shafron contrasts its persistent customization techniques with prior techniques that enabled users to view/access their account information by using the browser to render the web site of the web site of their account provider. See Shafron at page 2, paragraph [0012]. More particularly,

In addition, if an Internet user has an account with a content provider, that user's specific account information (e.g., investment portfolio, news headlines, bookmarks, address book, etc.) may now be dynamically displayed with the browser interface by the browser. Currently, an Internet user can only access the user's specific account information while connected to the content provider's Internet site. The user must return to the content provider's site to receive updated account information. The account information is not displayed with the browser interface once user leaves that Internet site. The present invention provides a method of dynamically controlling and a dynamically controllable browser interface that enables an Internet user to display with the browser interface and continuously update information and/or functionality specific to the user.

Shafron at page 2, paragraph [0012]. As such, paragraph 12 of Shafron criticizes prior browsers for failing to provide information persistently and without regard for the browser destinations, and suggest its improved persistent customization technique as a means of making information available upon and throughout invocation of the browser, regardless of the web sites visited through browser navigation or functionality thereof. However, Shafron's paragraph 12 does not describe or suggest displaying a new control element in response to navigating to a web site, much less a new control element that is configured to invoke functionality related to functionality offered by the current web site being rendered, as recited in claim 1.

Although Shafron was relied upon exclusively for providing the invocation of such a web-site specific control element as noted previously, applicant notes that the prior rejection of Bertram and Alexa was withdrawn upon amendments adding this feature, the Office action retained language that suggested Bertram had disclosed this feature. See Office action of December 17, 2004 at page 5, line 4 to page 6, line 11 (citing Bertram); page 2, lines 8-12 (noting rejection of subject claims have been withdrawn in view of the amendment); and page 4, lines 15-19 (citing new art Shafron for rejection of subject claims). Applicant suspects that the

retained language suggesting that Bertram had disclosed this feature was inadvertent, but applicant again addresses below the shortcomings of Bertram for purposes of providing a complete analysis.

In Bertram, parallel chromes or toolbars are used to accommodate users of differing sophistication. Specifically, in columns 5 and 6, Bertram describes the utility of parallel chromes in various contexts that service users of different sophistication, such as shopping mall kiosks and browser-equipped terminals at the home or throughout an office. See e.g., Bertram at col. 5, line 59 to col. 6, line 21. In one example, Bertram discloses a web page of animals that may be accessed by a child. When displayed, the web page of animals produces appropriate animal sounds. See Bertram at col. 10, lines 1-4. The user interface Bertram provides for a child includes a simplified version of a chrome, whereas the user interface provided for a parent is a correspondingly more complex version of chrome. Compare Bertram Fig. 2 at item 3 (showing a simplified children's version of chrome having four controls depicted as a Capitol building, a car, a printer, and a house, respectively) with Bertram Fig. 3 at item 3 (showing an adult version of chrome having nine controls, each control depicted as graphical icon and text).

By adjusting the complexity of the chrome, Bertram contemplates modifying the appearance of the chrome and changing the control elements displayed in the chrome. More particularly, only pictures are included in the chrome of the child toolbar of Figure 2 while words are included in the chrome of the adult toolbar of Figure 3. The adult toolbar of Figure 3 includes more control elements than displayed in the child toolbar of Figure 2. Referencing the above-mentioned examples, Bertram explicitly describes various control elements that would be added or removed from a chrome, as follows:

- (1) an address bar is included in the adult toolbar, but not the child's toolbar;
- (2) the adult toolbar includes the ability to invoke multiple concurrent browser instances;
- (3) more complex and numerous choices are offered to adults.

See Bertram at col. 5, lines 33-45 and col. 5, line 55 to col. 6, line 21.

These examples illustrate that Bertram modifies the user interface with "added" control elements based on the sophistication and requirements of the accessing user, not based on the web destination. Moreover, the "added" control elements of Bertram are not related to the functionality offered by a web site currently being accessed, as claimed.

Finally, applicant reiterates previously-provided comments to help clarify that neither Hoyle or Alexa address the aforementioned shortcomings of Shafron and Bertram.

Hoyle fails to disclose customizing a chrome with control elements that invoke functionality related to the functionality offered by a web site currently being accessed. Specifically, Hoyle discloses that when the software application is initially installed, the application-icon toolbar is created based on shortcuts existing on the computer's software desktop and thereafter permits the user to manually customize the toolbar. See Hoyle at col. 9, lines 30-35 and 62-64 (stating, inter alia, "the user can customize this toolbar either by dragging icons onto or off of the toolbar, or via a suitable command available under the 'Tools' menu item."). In addition, Hoyle discloses that the software application can be programmed to automatically add or remove icons from the toolbar when the icons are added or removed from the desktop. See Hoyle at col. 9, lines 65-67. Hoyle also discloses the ability of a user to manually add, to the bookmark category toolbar, links to web pages or category icons to organize sets of links. See Hoyle at col. 10, lines 1-18 (stating, inter alia, "additional links can be added by conventional drag and drop methods (i.e., dragging onto the bookmark category icons 80) or via menu commands."). Thus, Hoyle discloses adding a new icon to a toolbar based on manual user configuration of the toolbar itself, programmatically adding a new icon to a toolbar based on manual configuration of the computer's software desktop, or manual user configuration of a toolbar for links to web pages. As such, Hoyle does not disclose adding a new control element in response to a current web site being rendered to invoke, in response to a current web site being rendered, functionality related to functionality offered by that current web site, as recited by claim 1.

With regard to Alexa, the Office action concedes that Bertram does not teach a current site communication program configured to provide an indication of the current server computer to related information servers indicated by a related information servers indication, and a related information servers indication receiving program configured to receive the related information servers indication from at least one of the server computers such that the related information servers indication is dynamically reconfigurable. See Office action of December 17, 2004 at page 6, lines 15-20. For this teaching, the Office action relies on Alexa. The prior Office action agreed that Alexa does not teach adding a control element to the chrome displayed. See Office Action of August 16, 2004 at page 28. As such, Alexa cannot cure Bertram's failure to describe

or suggest chrome being displayed by a chrome display program that adds a control element configured to invoke functionality related to the functionality offered by the current web site being rendered to the chrome displayed while maintaining at least one element of the chrome that was displayed prior to the addition of the new control element, as recited in claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, applicant submits that neither Bertram, Hoyle, Alexa, Shafron, nor the proposed hypothetical combination of these references describes or suggests a web browser program configured to supplement chrome in response to a current web site being rendered with a control element that is configured to invoke functionality related to functionality offered by the current web site being rendered while maintaining at least one element of the chrome that was displayed prior to the addition of the new element. It is for at least this reason that applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claim 1.

Claims 3, 8-11 and 28-31 depend on claim 1. At least for the reason of that dependency and the reasons noted above with independent claim 1, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 3, 8-11, 16 and 28-31.

b. Claims 14, 19 and 32-35

Claim 14 is directed to a web browser that, inter alia, displays chrome such that the chrome is based on a chrome specifier corresponding to the current web site being rendered when a chrome specifier is associated with functionality offered by the current web site. The chrome returns to a default chrome when a chrome specifier is not associated with the functionality offered by the current web site. As such, the display of the chrome is triggered by navigation to the current web site, and the removal the chrome is triggered by navigation from the web site to a different web site. As described above, Bertram, Alexa, Hoyle, or Shafron, alone or in the proposed combination, do not describe or suggest a web browser where the chrome returns to a default chrome when a chrome specifier is not associated with the functionality offered by the current web site, as recited in claim 14. For at least this reason, applicant requests allowance of claim 14 and claims 19 and 32-35, which depend on claim 14.

c. Claims 20 and 36-39

Independent claim 20 is directed to a web browser program that, inter alia, modifies less than all of the control elements on the chrome and at least one of the modified control elements is configured to invoke functionality related to the current web site being rendered. Amended

claim 20 also recites that the configuration of the at least one control element is triggered upon navigation to a destination that has functionality related to the functionality invoked thorough interaction with the at least one control element.

As described previously with respect to claim 1, Bertram replaces all of the control elements. Thus, Bertram does not disclose modifying less than all of the control elements on the chrome. Alexa discloses displaying advertisements, as described above. As such, Alexa does not disclose modifying less than all of the control elements on the chrome, as recited in claim 20. As described above, Hoyle does not disclose customizing a chrome with control elements that invoke functionality related to the functionality offered by a web site currently being accessed. Hence, Hoyle cannot describe or suggest modifying less than all of the control elements on the chrome and at least one of the modified control elements is configured to invoke functionality related to the current web site being rendered, as recited in claim 20. As described above, Shafron discloses a customized browser interface that persists as the user navigates to other web sites. As such, Shafron does not describe or suggest modifying less than all of the control elements on the chrome and at least one of the modified control elements is configured to invoke functionality related to the current web site being rendered wherein the configuration is triggered upon navigation to a destination that has functionality related to functionality invoked through interaction with the at least one control element, as recited in amended claim 20.

Therefore, neither Bertram, Alexa, Hoyle, Shafron nor the proposed combination of the references describe or suggest the subject matter of amended claim 20. For at least this reason, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 20 and claims 36-39, which depend on claim 20.

d. Claims 44-48

Amended independent claim 44 is directed to a method for partially customizing chrome displayed as part of a user interface by adding a control element configured to enable selection of new functionality that is related to a current web resource being accessed. The method includes, inter alia, presenting, in addition to at least some of the set of selectable chrome elements, an additional selectable chrome element that is related to functionality offered by the web resource being accessed. The method also includes detecting navigation by the web browsing application to a first web resource and, in response to detected navigation to the first web resource,

presenting, in addition to at least some of the set of selectable chrome elements, an additional and new selectable chrome element that is related to functionality offered by the first web resource being accessed. The method also includes detecting navigation by the web browsing application to a second web resource and, in response to detected navigation by the web browsing application to a second web resource, removing the additional and new selectable chrome element that is related to functionality offered by the first web resource.¹

As described previously, none of Bertram, Hoyle, Alexa, Shafron, or any combination of the references describes or suggests presenting, in addition to at least some of the set of selectable chrome elements, an additional selectable chrome element that is related to functionality offered by the web resource being accessed and removing the chrome element upon detecting navigation to a second web resource. For at least this reason, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 44 and claims 45-48 that depend from claim 44.

Rejection of Claims 2, 4 and 5-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2, 4 and 5-7 each depend directly or indirectly from independent claim 1.

Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bertram in view of Hoyle, Alexa, Shafron and Miller, "An Introduction to the Resource Description Framework," D-Lib Magazine, May 1998, pages 1-12 (hereinafter, "Miller"). See Office action of December 17, 2004 at page 17.

Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bertram in view of Hoyle, Alexa, Shafron and Peyer (U.S. Patent No. 6,188,401). See Office action of December 17, 2004 at page 18.

Claims 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bertram in view of Hoyle, Alexa, Shafron and Brown, et al. "Using Netscape 2" published by Que Corporation 1995, page 74 (hereinafter, "Brown"). See Office action of December 17, 2004 at page 18.

None of Miller, Peyer or Brown remedy the failure of Alexa, Hoyle, Bertram and Shafron, alone or in combination, to describe or suggest the subject matter of claim 1. Therefore, neither Bertram, Hoyle, Alexa, Shafron, Miller, Peyer, Brown, nor any combination of the

¹ The underlined portions were added by this amendment, and, naturally, were not addressed by the Office action.

references, describe or suggest the subject matter of claim 1. For at least these reasons, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 2, 4, and 5-7, which depend directly or indirectly from claim 1.

Rejection of Claims 13 and 25-27 under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bertram in view of Hoyle, Alexa and Shafron as applied to claim 1 and in further view of Hetherington (U.S. Patent No. 6,396,515). See Office action of December 17, 2004 at page 20.

Claim 13 was described by the Office action as similar to claim 1, and rejected “under the same rationale.” See Office action of December 17, 2004 at page 20. Furthermore, and in clear recognition of some distinctions between claims 1 and 13, the Office action relies upon Hetherington in addition to the references cited against claim 1.

Applicant beings by pointing out that claim 13, like claim 1, recites a content display program configured to receive content data from a current web site of a current server computer, and to cause information representative of the content data to be displayed on a content portion of a display of the client computer, and a chrome display program configured to cause chrome that corresponds to chrome specifiers to be displayed on a chrome portion of the client computer display. In addition, and distinct of claim 1, independent claim 13 recites a web browser that, inter alia, displays chrome that includes words that are based on a stored language demographic associated with the user. As neither Bertram, Alexa, Hoyle, Shafron, Hetherington or any combination of the references describes or suggests this feature, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claim 13.

Bertram substitutes, for “a normal adult or parent browser user interface,” a new user interface that includes animal graphics. See Bertram at col. 10, lines 1-19. In contrast, claim 13 recites a chrome that includes words that are based a language demographic of the user. The animal graphics in Bertram do not include or otherwise suggest words. Thus, the animal graphic in Bertram is distinguishable from a chrome that includes words that are based on a stored language demographic of the user, as recited by claim 13. Neither Hoyle, Alexa or Shafron remedies this failure of Bertram. Therefore, neither Bertram, Alexa, Hoyle, Shafron nor the combination of the references two describe or suggest the subject matter of claim 13.

Hetherington discloses dynamically linking, at runtime, language-specific files containing user interface text during the initialization of an application or when a language change request is

received. See Hetherington at Abstract. Hetherington discloses “allow[ing] users to change user interface display languages on the fly, and permits multiple users of an application to change the display language.” See Hetherington at col. 4, lines 32-35. Thus, Hetherington discloses dynamically changing the language used to display text of a user interface under manual user control, not based on a stored language demographic of a user, as recited in claim 13.

Hetherington states:

Referring back to FIG. 2A, operating system 202 may include a language or “regional setting” property or variable 214 as shown. Property 214 may contain either an uppercase, two letter ISO Country Code as defined by ISO-3166 or a lower-case, two letter ISO Language Code as defined by ISO-639, or both. User interface text files 208 may be selected based on the content of property 214. Changing property 214 may cause user interface components registered as subscribers for language change request notification to reload with different human-language text drawn from a different UI text storage object 208, dynamically changing the UI display language.

Hetherington at col. 5, lines 1-12 (emphasis added).

Thus, according to the plain text of Hetherington, a language variable is associated with the operating system and is not associated with a user. Hence, Hetherington does not describe or suggest a stored language demographic associated with a user, and necessarily cannot disclose displaying chrome based on chrome specifiers and displayed by the chrome display program that includes words that are based on a stored language demographic of the user, as recited in amended claim 13.

Accordingly, neither Bertram, Hetherington nor a combination of the references displays chrome based on chrome specifiers and displayed by the chrome display program that includes words that are based on a stored language demographic of the user, as recited in claim 13. For at least these reasons, applicant requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 13 and 25-27 that depend on claim 13.

As an administrative matter, applicant notes that claim 18 that depends on claim 13 was not included in this rejection, but rather claim 18 was included in the obviousness rejection of Claims 1, 3, 8-12, 14, 16-20, 28-39 and 44-48. At least for the reasons of dependency on claim 13 and the reasons described above with respect to the obviousness rejection of claim 13, applicant asserts that claim 18 is allowable and requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 18.

Rejection of Claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner also rejects dependent claim 15 as being unpatentable over Bertram in view of Hoyle, Alexa and Sharfron and in further view of “Ad on the Bar Campaign Supplements Alexa’s Focused Advertising Program,”

http://www.alexa.com/press/press_releases/ad.html, pages 1-3, published 12/10/1997 (hereinafter, “Alexa 2”). See Office action of December 17, 2004 at pages 22-23.

By virtue of its dependence upon claim 1, claim 15 recites, *inter alia*, that a new control element is configured in response to the current web site being rendered to invoke functionality related to functionality offered by the current web site being rendered. In contrast, Alexa 2 discloses the display of advertisements on a toolbar. Alexa 2 does not disclose configuring a new control element in response to the current web site being rendered to invoke functionality related to functionality offered by the current web site being rendered. Thus, Alexa 2 fails to remedy the failure of Bertram, Hoyle, Alexa or Shafron, alone or in combination, to describe or suggest the subject matter of claim 1 from which claim 15 depends.

Moreover, even overlooking its dependence upon claim 1, claim 15 itself recites features not met by the cited references, alone or in the proposed combination. Specifically, claim 15 is directed to a feature of the web browser program recited in claim 1 from which claim 15 depends. More particularly, claim 15 recites the chrome corresponding to the chrome specifiers of the current web site being rendered and displayed by the chrome display program adds a new control element to the chrome displayed based on past web sites rendered by the client computer while maintaining at least one element of the chrome displayed prior to the addition of the new control element.

The Office action concedes failure by Bertram, Hoyle, Alexa or Shafron to meet these limitations, and, thus, turns to Alexa 2. See Office action of December 17, 2004 at page 22, line 18 to page 23, line 3. However, Alexa 2 is similarly deficient. In contrast, Alexa 2’s advertisements do not include a control element. Hence, Alexa 2 does not describe or suggest adding a new control element to the chrome display based on past web sites rendered by the client computer while maintaining at least one element of the chrome displayed prior to the addition of the new control element, as recited in claim 15.

For at least these reasons and the reasons described above with respect to claim 1, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claim 15.

Rejection of Claims 21-24 and 40-43 under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Independent claim 21 and dependent claims 40-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Bertram in view of Hoyle and Shafron. See Office action of December 17, 2004 at page 24. Claims 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Bertram, Hoyle, Shafron in further view of Alexa. See Office action of December 17, 2004 at page 28.

Claim 21 is directed to a computer-implemented method for reconfiguring chrome of a user interface to a web browser program and recites, inter alia, adding a new control element to the chrome being displayed while maintaining at least one element of the chrome that was displayed prior to the addition of the new control element. The new control element is configured in response to the current web site being rendered to invoke functionality related to functionality offered by the current web site being rendered (emphasis added).

As discussed above with respect to amended claim 1, neither Bertram, Hoyle, Shafron, nor any combination of the two references describes or suggests a new control element that is configured in response to the current web site being rendered to invoke functionality related to functionality offered by the current web site being rendered. Also as described above, Alexa does not remedy this failure.

Because Bertram, Hoyle, Alexa, Shafron or any combination of the references do not describe or suggest the subject matter of claim 21, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 21. Applicant submits that claims 22-24 and 40-43 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependence on claim 21.

New Claims 49-54

Each of claims 49-54 depend from independent claim 1, 20 or 21, respectively. At least for the reason of that dependency and the reasons noted above with independent claims 1, 20 or 21, applicant submits that claims 49-54 are allowable.

Shafron Not Admitted To Be Prior Art

Applicant's identification of the differences between applicant's claimed subject matter and Shafron should not be taken as an admission that Shafron is properly considered prior art.

Applicant : David HYATT et al.
Serial No. : 09/208,805
Filed : December 9, 1998
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Conclusion

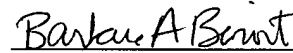
Applicants asks that all claims be allowed.

It is believed that all of the pending issues have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this reply should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this reply, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

No fee is believed due. Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$200.00 for excess claim fees. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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